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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/601,267	08/25/2000	William Nicol Keith	9013-18	9771
20792	7590	09/01/2005		
MYERS BIGEL SIBLEY & SAJOVEC			EXAMINER	
PO BOX 37428			WILDER, CYNTHIA B	
RALEIGH, NC 27627			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

1637

DATE MAILED: 09/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/601,267

Applicant(s)

KEITH, WILLIAM NICOL

Examiner

Cynthia B. Wilder, Ph.D.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-10,28,30,31 and 45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-10,28,30,31 and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendment filed August 5, 2005 is acknowledged and has been entered. Claims 9, 10 and 28 have been amended. Claims 4, 11-27 and 29 have been canceled. Claims 30-31 and 45 have been added. All of the arguments have been thoroughly reviewed and considered but are not found persuasive in view of the new grounds of rejections. The indication of allowability in the previous office action is withdrawn in view of the new grounds of rejections. Any rejection not reiterated in this action has been withdrawn as being obviated by the amendment of the claims.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Priority

3. Receipt is acknowledged of the certified priority documents submitted during prosecution of the international application. However, a copy of the certified document was not provided by the International Bureau for the instant application. The examiner is attempting to retrieve a copy of this document. However, to expedite prosecution of the case, it is suggested resubmitting a certified copy of the priority document for the instant application. The examiner regrets any inadvertent inconvenience.

New Grounds of Rejections

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1-3, 5-10, 28, 30-31, 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

(a) Claims 1-3, 5-10, 28, 30-31 and 45 are indefinite at "at least 272 bp upstream and at least 69 bp downstream of a transcription start site of said hTR gene as shown in Fig 4a (SEQ ID NO: 36)" because it cannot be determine the relationship of SEQ ID NO: 36 in Figure 4a to the isolated promoter sequence. For example, it cannot be determined whether the entire sequence in SEQ ID NO: 36 is the isolated promoter sequence or whether the different constructs (hProm867, hProm505, hProm697, hProm341) in the figure 4a is the isolated promoter sequences and if the different constructs are the isolated promoters what is their relationship to SEQ ID NO: 36? Further it cannot be determine if each and every construct recited in the claims as encompassing SEQ ID NO: 36 have the same structural sequence and if so how do they differ? Clarification is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Villeponteau et al (US 5,583,016, December 10, 1996). Regarding claim 1, Villeponteau et al teach an isolated promoter sequence having the sequence as shown in fig 4a comprising at least 272 bp upstream and at least 69 bp downstream of a transcription start site of the hTR gene, which initiates

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transcription (see SEQ ID NO: 3, col. 8-11, see also col. 18, lines 66-67 to col. 19, lines 1-21).

Note** The claim as broadly written is open ended and thus allow for additional non-functional sequences. Therefore, Villeponteau et al meets the limitations of the claims

Conclusion

8. No claims are allowed. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cynthia B. Wilder, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-0791. The examiner works a flexible schedule and can be reached by phone and voice mail. Alternatively, a request for a return telephone call may be emailed to cynthia.wilder@uspto.gov. Since email communications may not be secure, it is suggested that information in such request be limited to name, phone number, and the best time to return the call.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion can be reached on (571) 272-0782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days.

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For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199.

Cynthia Wilder
CYNTHIA WILDER
PATENT EXAMINER
8/25/2005